

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Indian Airlines discontinued operation of services on Hyderabad-Vijayawada-Tirupathi-Madras sector with effect from 15th April, 1989.

(c) and (d) No firm decision either with regard to purchase of the 50-seater aircraft or the routes to be operated by it has been taken so far.

Cauvery River Authority

3058. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have taken any decision to set up the Cauvery River Authority to resolve the dispute between Karnataka and Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the time by when it is likely to be set up;

(c) whether this scheme have been rejected by Karnataka; and

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to persuade the State to accept the scheme in the interest of both the States ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) to (d) The Central Government has set up Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal for adjudication of the dispute under Section 4 of the Inter State Water Disputes Act 1956. The Tribunal has given an Interim order on 25.6.91.

In pursuance of the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, the draft scheme envisaging "Cauvery River Authority" was formulated by the Central Government under Section 6A of the Inter State Water Disputes Act 1956 for implementation of the Interim Order dated 25.6.1991 of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal (CWDT) and sent to the Party States for their comments on 30.5.1997.

The Governments to Tamil Nadu and Union Territory of Pondicherry have agreed to the draft scheme with some changes and the Government of Kerala has requested for some more time to give their comments. However, Government of Karnataka have expressed strong opposition to the draft scheme and they have requested the Government of India, inter alia, to initiate action to settle the dispute through mutual discussions. Further, they have also requested the Central Government to simultaneously

take steps for early finalisation of the National Policy Guidelines for water allocation amongst States.

The scheme will be finalised strictly on merits after examining the comments of all the basin States. Thereafter a meeting with these States can be held to narrow down the differences to the extent possible. The finalised scheme will then be placed before the Cabinet for its approval, and after obtaining the approval of the cabinet, the same will be notified and will be laid before each House of the Parliament for a period of 30 days.

The Parliament will have a right to make modifications which may include a decision for not having such a scheme at all, and scheme will then come into effect only in the modified form.

Guidelines for Affiliation/Recognition

3059. KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any guidelines have been issued to the State Governments and the different Universities regarding recognition and affiliation of colleges established by religion and linguistic minorities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of such colleges which have been accorded recognition/affiliation during the last three years; and

(d) the number of pending applications for recognition affiliation in different States ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Peaceful Stay in Firing Range

3060. SHRI BHIMRAO VISHNUJI BADADE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Farm houses offer peaceful stay in firing range" appearing in 'Indian Express', dated July 11, 1997;

(b) if so, the facts reported therein;

(c) whether some areas in the Tilpat firing range of IAF in Faridabad has been encroached upon;